

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Int. National Application No.

PCT/US 00/09541

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 G06F15/02 G06F17/30 G06F17/22 G06F17/21 H04N7/173

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 H04N G06F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, INSPEC, IBM-TDB

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
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| X | GB 2 269 302 A (MITSUBISHI CORP) 2 February 1994 (1994-02-02) | 59-64, 73,89, 90,93, 95,106, 108, 111-116, 119-121, 132,139, 140, 142-145, 147,152, 153,155, 175,192, 193,202, 204-206 |
| Y | | 1-5, 9, 12,17, 18,21, 22,25, |
| | -/- | |

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

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O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

Z document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

24 October 2000

Date of mailing of the international search report

02/11/2000

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| | <p>abstract page 3, line 22 -page 4, line 11 page 5, line 22 -page 8, line 15; figures 1-4</p> | <p>26, 33-38, 42,47, 51, 128-130, 159,169, 178,194, 197,199, 201,217</p> |
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| Y | <p>abstract page 6, line 27 -page 9, line 15; figures 2,3 page 10, line 9 - line 20; figure 4 page 11, line 3 -page 12, line 1; figure 5B page 15, line 8 - line 29 page 26, line 1 -page 28, line 12; figures 14I,14J page 35, line 17 -page 38, line 14; figures 18A,18B</p> <p style="text-align: center;">— -/-</p> | |

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